Crash of Aircraft No. C-770 in Assam

1513. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Aircraft No. C-770 was crashed on 11th January; 1988 at Bihaguri-Kalitagon in Assam;

(b) whether some private properties of some villagers including public granery were demolished by the aircraft;

(c) what amount of money has been given to the family of the Pilot, to the fire-victim woman and to the villagers whose properties were demolished; and

(d) whether any enquiry was made and if so, what is the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The following payments were made to the next of kin of the late pilot:—

(i) *Ex-gratia* compensation Rs. 1 lakh

(ii) Death Gratuity Rs. 4,600.00

(iii) Family Gratuity Rs. 667.50

Dependent pension has not been claimed by the father of the deceased officer.

(iv) Under Air Force Group Insurance Scheme: Rs. 5,84,770.00. By Indian Air Force Benevolent Association: (i) Death Grant Rs. 3,500.00 (ii) Rehabilitation Grant Rs. 450.00 p.m. for 10 years.

A compensation claim of Rs. 42,800/- has been made by the husband of the woman who sustained burns, and Rs. 75,175/- by other civilians. These are being processed by the Air Force and civil authorities concerned.

(d) Yes, Sir. However, the findings of the Court of Inquiry are classified in nature, and cannot be disclosed in the public interest.

Central assistance to flood affected States

1514. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the flood affected State of Assam has been given the Central assistance as loan at the rate of 6 per cent interest;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Central assistance to the States of Punjab, Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir is also given as loan at the same interest; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the differences maintained in giving assistance to the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES to (c) The Central Loan Assistance given to any State for the same purpose bears uniform rate of interest.

Plan to meet the future transport needs of the country

1515. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any long-term perspective plans have been worked out to meet the future transport needs of the country, coordinating the expansion programmes of the Railways, Surface Transport and Civil Aviation;

(b) if so details thereof; and

(c) the investments proposed for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Planning Commission, recognising the